



## Hampton Roads Chapter of ASPA

1990, 1992, 1993 & 1998 Newsletter Award Recipient

April 2002

### ASPA Chapter Officers 2001-2002

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#### **Membership Chair**

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Dr. Pete Carlson  
Sylvia Hill  
Jerry Hoddinott (Marketing Chair)  
Dr. William Leavitt  
Dr. Berhanu Mengistu  
Terry Moore  
Earl Sorey  
Erica Woods-Warrior (Student Rep.)

### Annual Awards Luncheon

#### **Date**

Thursday, May 9, 2002

#### **Location**

The Boxwood Inn, 10 Elmhurst St., Historical Lee  
Hall Village, Newport News, VA  
(757) 425-9000

#### **Program**

In celebration of *National Public Service  
Recognition Week*, the Chapter will present:

- Julian F. Hirst Award for Distinguished Service
- George Robert House Jr. Award for Outstanding Service
- Dr. Wolfgang Pindur Outstanding Academician and Public Administrator Award
- Student Scholarship Award

#### **Time**

Registration and Networking: 11:30 a.m.  
Luncheon Program: 12:00 noon

#### **Cost**

**Advanced Registration:** \$20/\$15 for Students  
**On Site Registration:** \$25/\$20 for Students

#### **Registration**

Look for a registration form in the mail  
or register on-line at

[www.hampton.gov/budget/asp](http://www.hampton.gov/budget/asp)

#### **For Registration Information Contact:**

Terry Moore  
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## President's Message

By Joyce Heffington

Too often we hear complaints of "Bureaucrats" and "red tape". This may be true of a few public servants, but most of us are professionals who are dedicated to serving the public. Many of us could make more money in our chosen fields in the private sector, but we serve the public for reasons other than money. Many of us find fulfillment in knowing that what we do may make life better for even one citizen. There is a certain honor in saying you are in the field of public service.

May 5 - 11 is **National Public Service Recognition Week**. We will be having our annual awards luncheon on Thursday, May 9 of this week. At this luncheon we will give out awards for public administrators who have provided outstanding service. One award, the Julian Hirst award, is given to a public administrator over the age of thirty-five who has provided outstanding service. A second award, the G. Robert House Award, is given to an outstanding public administrator age thirty-five and under. Both of these gentlemen, who we have named the awards after, were outstanding public administrators, ending their careers as local city managers. Mr. Hirst still joins us for our awards luncheons and we look forward to his entertaining words of wisdom again this year.

The young administrator award was named after Mr. House because he was known for his mentoring of younger city employees. Mr. House died in an airplane crash while serving as the City Manager of Portsmouth. This year's recipients of these awards are more than deserving. They do outstanding work and unselfishly give of their personal time to benefit the community. This year the committee, with the approval of council, decided to add another award. This award will be the Dr. Wolfgang

Pindur Outstanding Academician and Public Administrator Award, named after our beloved president who passed away last year. This recipient has been able to link both fields of service, as well as having done research and analysis, just like Dr. Pindur.

We don't have to look to the movies for modern day heroes. We can find them everywhere people are serving other people. This is a proud and honorable profession we belong to. Let's recognize it and help those we serve recognize it, too!

Sincerely,  
Joyce Heffington, President

## Members' Corner

### New Members/Jobs/Promotions/Awards

If anyone has news to share with fellow chapter members on a new job, promotion, award, etc., please contact [Leslie Beauregard](#), E-Newsletter Editor.

## Events Calendar

May 9, 2002 - Annual Awards Luncheon;

**Location:** The Boxwood Inn, Historic Lee Hall Village, Newport News, VA;

**Speaker:** Virginia State Senator Frederick Quayle

## 2002 Symposium Highlights Our New Workplace

By [Dr. Pete Carlson](#), Associate Professor and Director of Graduate Programs, Government and Public Affairs, Christopher Newport University

Another terrific ASPA event! The 2002 "Issues In Public Administration" Symposium was held in Virginia Beach this year and 75 of our Hampton Roads' membership attended the day-long conference. On March 21st our membership found their way to the Sheraton Oceanfront Hotel on the beach and participated in the new and improved program that was formerly known as our Professional Development Day.

This year's conference was entitled "Public Service and Our Changing Reality" and offered sessions designed to stimulate thought and help us find creative ways of dealing with changes in our workplaces and lives. All of us have found significant change since the attacks on our national sovereignty on September 11, 2001. Our program this year was designed to help public administrators with some of these critical issues and improve our ability to serve our constituents and our agency staff.

The first session offered this year included a choice of "Leadership and Ethics in Public Service" (Dr. Tammy Hall, Christopher Newport University and Mr. Marty Harrell, Fleet and Industrial Supply Center) or "Declining Civility in the Public Arena" (Mr. William Wood, University of Virginia). Both sessions were proposed by local city managers and their staff.

The second session also forced attendees to choose between two competing sessions: "Public Safety versus Personal Freedom" (Professors Tom Dempsey and Peter Carlson, Christopher Newport University), or "Changing Expectations of Public Servants" (Mr. George Wallace, Hampton City Manager and Mr. James Oliver, Former City Manager, Norfolk).

Our Keynote Speaker this year was Dr. Kathleen McChesney, Executive Assistant Director for Law Enforcement Services, Federal Bureau of Investigation. She gave attendees an overview of challenges that this premier law enforcement agency is facing today, as well as the mission shift that the FBI is currently making to better deal with the critical problems of domestic and international terrorism. Her presentation was very well received by our membership.

For 2002, the conference presented only morning sessions and a luncheon speaker. The program was finished by 1:30 p.m. Most chapter members agreed the new format for the sessions this year was excellent and that the presenters did a terrific job of offering great material in a manner that involved the audience.


Thanks to all who supported our organization through their attendance! We look forward to developing and presenting Symposium 2003!

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## *Public Service, Public Trust* **A Report on the 2002 National ASPA Conference**

By Sharon Kline, Fiscal Administrator,  
City of Chesapeake

I was fortunate to attend the 63rd National ASPA Conference held in Phoenix, Arizona March 23-26, 2002 representing the Hampton Roads Chapter as well as my city, Chesapeake. The conference theme of "Public Service, Public Trust" contained over 151 topical sessions, numerous section and committee meetings, as well as the pre-conference symposium and several mobile workshops. The conference hotel, The Phoenix Crown Plaza was two blocks from the Phoenix Civic Plaza necessitating traveling between the two for various sessions and activities---not an unpleasant walk in balmy 80+



degree, sunny weather with numerous gardens and public art.

The opening reception, hosted by the Mayor of Phoenix, was held in the ten-story City Hall atrium complete with Indian tribal hoop dancers and southwestern food and was preceded by a National Awards presentation in the restored Orpheum Theatre.

There was a good mix of academicians, practitioners, and students attending with over 1,000 registered participants. Practically all 50 states were represented as well as many other countries. The highest ranking international official was H.E. Hage G. Geingob, the Prime Minister of Namibia, who presented a panel on "Building Economies From the Government Up: Celebrating A New Charter For Public Service in Africa".

Although I did not run into any Hampton Roads Chapter members, I recognized several current and past members' names in the Attendee Roster. There was plenty of opportunity to meet and network with ASPA members worldwide, both in formal and social settings.

Attending a National Conference is rewarding in many facets: educationally, peer networking, and rejuvenation of your sense of direction. I strongly encourage Chapter members to attend next year's conference, which will be held March 15-18, 2003 in Washington, D.C.



## *Special Section*

### *National Public Service Recognition Week*

*May 5 - 11, 2002*



#### **What is National Public Service Recognition Week?\***

Public Service Recognition Week, celebrated the first Monday through Sunday in May since 1985, is a time set aside to better inform Americans about the broad variety of services provided by Government. The week is also an opportunity to show appreciation to public employees at the federal, state, county and local levels who ensure that our government is the best in the world.

Public employees in the U.S. and around the world take part in the annual celebration. Festivals, open houses, parades, community clean-up days and fund raising events to benefit charity are just some of the ways that public employees around the country reach out to their communities. One reason negative stereotypes about public employees abound is the fact that the public has very little knowledge about how government services benefit their everyday lives. Reaching out to communities across the nation is not only a way to build bridges between government and citizens but it also gives public servants an opportunity to inform their neighbors.

We need to make sure our neighbors understand our contributions to the community and to the nation. We need to tell people about our innovative programs and our successful efforts to improve customer service. We need to tell the stories about our involvement in our community and our schools. We need to tell the stories of outstanding employees we work with every day. We need to remember the reasons we choose careers in public service and express those reasons.

**Most of all, we need to put a face to public service.**

Public Service Recognition Week also offers us a great opportunity to educate young people about American government.

This education will have a two-fold effect. The first is that we will be providing an invaluable service in any democracy of educating its citizenry and future voters as to how government functions. The second effect is that we have the opportunity to show young adults the opportunities that exist for careers in public service. In the long-term battle against negative stereotypes, it is absolutely necessary to educate the youth of the nation so that they will make informed decisions when they become the nation's leaders.

Possibly the most important reason for the week is to celebrate and recognize the invaluable service that the millions of public servants provide to the nation. All too often, the contributions made by America's public employees to our democracy are forgotten not only by the citizenry but even by those who serve. Public Service Recognition Week provides governments around the nation the vehicle with which to celebrate, recognize and identify the important contributions that public employees offer to this country. It is a perfect time to emphasize the common bond among federal, state, country and city employees. Careerists, appointed officials and elected officials are all public employees. Federal, state and local public employees are all part of "government." The week should be a time when every citizen becomes more aware of how government services touch their lives each day, both directly and indirectly.

*\*Public Employees Round Table. (2002). How to celebrate public service recognition week. (handbook). Arlington, VA.*

**Past Recipients of the Julian F. Hirst  
Award for Distinguished Service**

1994	James K. Spore, City Manager, Virginia Beach
1995	Darlene Burcham, Asst. City Manager, Norfolk
1996	Gwendolyn S. Davis, Principal Management Analyst, Portsmouth
1997	Clarence Cuffee, Deputy City Manager, Chesapeake
1998	Mary Ann Saunders, Assistant to the City Manager, Chesapeake
1999	Dr. Wolfgang Pindur, Professor, Old Dominion University
2000	Ted Henifin, Director of Public Works, Hampton
2001	David Sullivan, Chief Information Officer, Virginia Beach

**Past Recipients of the George Robert  
House, Jr. Award for Outstanding Service**

1994	Keith Toler, Director, Portsmouth Convention and Visitors Center
1995	J. Michael Hawkins – HOME Project Manager, Newport News Redevelopment and Housing
1996	William Harrell – Assistant City Manager, Suffolk
1997	Mary B. Bunting, Assistant City Manager, Hampton
1998	No Award
1999	Courtney Meredith, Youth Planner, Hampton
2000	Lorrie Andrew-Spear, Environmental Relations Assistant, Public Works Department, Hampton
2001	Columbus Grant III, Director of Public Works, Elizabeth City, NC

*All free governments are managed by the combined wisdom  
and folly of the people.*

- James A. Garfield, 20<sup>th</sup> President of the United States of America